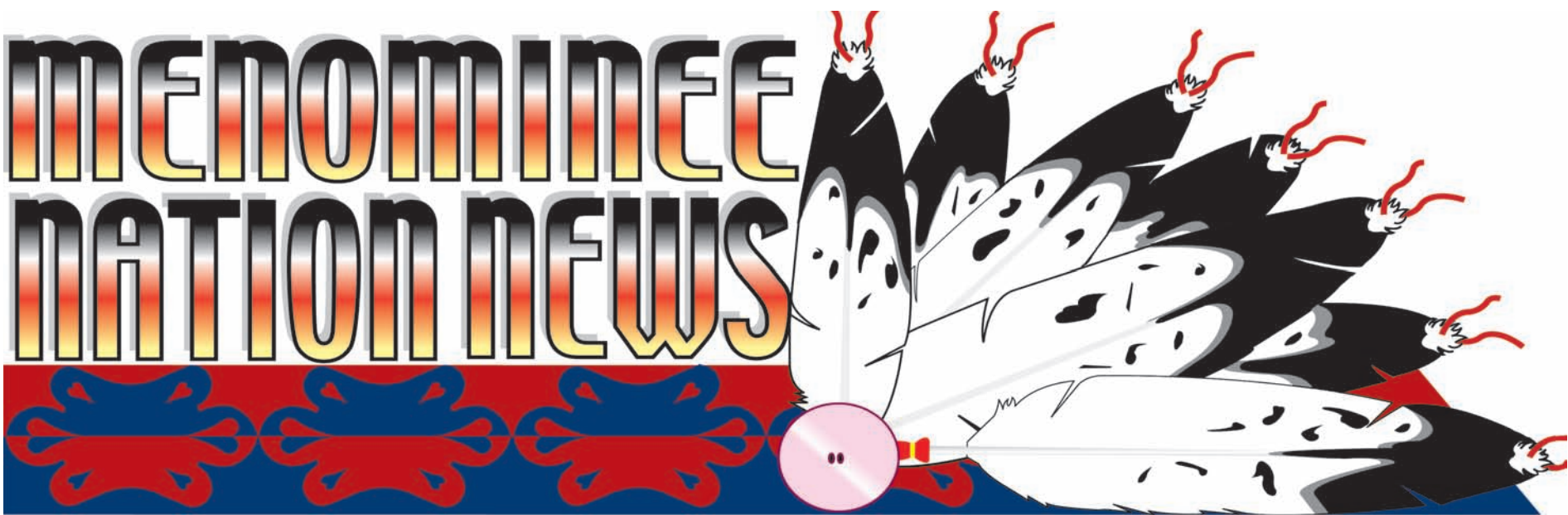


# MEMOMINEE NATION NEWS



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## Former Kenosha casino investors file lawsuit

Associated Press  
Wire Service

KENOSHA, Wis. (AP) - A group of investors who formerly joined with the Menominee tribe in an effort to open a Kenosha casino has filed a lawsuit against one of the tribe's current development partners.

About 90 investors in Nii-Jii Entertainment Corp. said in the suit filed Monday in Kenosha County Circuit Court that their 1994 development deal included a clause banning the tribe or any Nii-Jii partners from involvement in a competing casino deal within 50 miles of the Kenosha casino site.

The Nii-Jii investors spent more than \$10 million on the earlier casino plan, which became the basis for the current Kenosha project, their attorney, George Kersten, said. The suit contends the location for the casino at the site of Dairyland Greyhound Park, the partnership model with the tribe and community support for the plan were all done by Nii-Jii.

The lawsuit seeks unspecified compensation from Kenosha businessman Dennis M. Troha and his Kenesah Gaming Development Co., one the tribe's current development groups. Troha had been part of the Nii-Jii group and served on Nii-Jii's board, according to the suit.

See LAWSUIT pg. 2

## Menominee Indian Middle School Students decorate the Logging Museum



M. Hawpetoss/Menominee Nation News

Menominee Indian Middle School students, teachers, parents and community members volunteered to decorate the Logging Museum.

Marci Hawpetoss  
Menominee Nation News

Its that time of the year again, where many of us drive over the Wolf River bridge to see the magnificent display of Christmas lights at the Menominee Logging Camp Museum.

Menominee Indian Middle School's Menominee Language and Culture class, parents, and community members volunteered to decorate the

Logging Museum on Tuesday November 22, 2005.

The Sixth (6th), Seventh (7th) and Eighth (8th) grades created a pine wreath and decorated the outside walls of the Bunk House and Cook Shanty with the message: Merry Christmas! After their hard work, students were treated to hot cocoa and christmas cookies provided by Historic Preservation & David Grignon, Chairman Michael Chapman and

Police Chief Mark Waukau, John Newton also donated fry bread.

Language and Culture Substitute Teacher, Mrs. Smith said the students have been working on individual projects, including a pride quilt.

The work these students did at the Logging Camp Museum will be appreciated by the entire reservation, as Tribal members and visitors drive over the Wolf River bridge this winter to see the display of Christmas lights.

## Sacred Heart Mini Pow-wow



M. Hawpetoss/MNN News

Pictured are the Menominee Royalty representing the Menominee Nation in various capacities at the Sacred Heart School Pow-wow in Shawano. These youth were chosen because of their knowledge of and their drive to learn the Menominee culture, language and history as young ambassadors and leaders of the Menominee Nation.

See POWWOW pg. 8

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## **Lawsuit continued from front page**

Troha and unnamed members of his family ``would be unjustly enriched" unless Nii-Jii investors share in any Kenosha casino proceeds, Kersten alleged.

Although he has not seen the lawsuit, Troha said he felt confident he would be able to succeed in the matter.

The casino development will benefit the tribe and the Kenosha area, he said.

Kersten said he did not name the Menominee or Mohegan tribes in his lawsuit because that would have raised complicated issues of tribal sovereignty. The Mohegan tribe of Connecticut is also a partner in the new Kenosha casino deal.

Menominee officials have said the earlier deal and restriction died when the previous plan was dropped four years ago.

"The Menominee tribe's current efforts at creating a Kenosha casino are completely separate from this prior failed attempt," Menominee Tribal Chairman Michael Chapman said in a statement.

## **Pow-wow continued from front page**

Marci Hawpetoss

Menominee Nation News

The Sacred Heart School in Shawano services an increasing amount of Menominee students. In reference to this, the Sacred Heart School welcomed the Menominee community and Native American community in general as it hosted its first pow-wow. This opportunity for cultural exchange allowed native students to share a part of their culture with teachers and peers alike.

The Grand Entry song was given by the Menominee Indian High School Singers. The Veterans of Menominee Nation Color Guard led the Menominee Royalty and dancers during Grand Entry. The Flag Song followed. Ron Corn Jr. was asked to give the invocation. Emcee Jerome Sanapaw introduced the Veterans as they posted the colors. Dana Warrington kept the pow-wow moving and the dance floor clear as the arena director. The dancers in regalia and their families led the first intertribal dance. The second intertribal was a special. While all the dancers were in the arena, volunteers from the Shawano community were asked to choose their favorite dancer.

The Menominee Tribal School dance troupe, Awaehsaeh Hoop Dancers, preformed hoop dances for the audience as they moved to the rhythms of the drum group, creating shapes of flowers, butterflies, snakes and birds. Dance teacher Rebecca Hawpetoss introduced the young ladies as: Millie Marksmen, Kaycee Frechette, Mindy Waupoose and Cameo Perez. Other specials included the Two-Step and a Give Away. These specials allowed the students to share their friendship and to show their appreciation for the successful turn out. To close the pow-wow for the day, the Veterans of Menominee Nation Retired the Colors. This pow-wow was a first for the Sacred Heart School in Shawano. A group of Menominee parents whose children attend Sacred Heart organized this pow-wow to honor Native American History Month (November).

One parent organizer, Lela Schwitzer stated, "November is Native American History Month and this pow-wow was a great opportunity to share a part of Menominee culture with the surrounding communities."